



## Public Safety Communications Highlights

- Montana NECP capabilities reporting hits 75% compliance!
- Roger Smith, Lewis and Clark Co., said that testing of T-1s for connectivity to the Eastern Zone 2 Controller is underway.
- The Eastern Microwave Build-out Project is complete, and all documentation has been transferred to Richland County.
- Don't forget, an electronic copy of the *2011 Mutual Aid and Common Frequencies Manual* is available on the PSSB website at:  
[http://pssb.mt.gov/mutual\\_aid\\_manual.mcpx](http://pssb.mt.gov/mutual_aid_manual.mcpx)

## FCC and APCO Collaborate on Free Narrowbanding Webcast

You're invited to participate in a free APCO Webcast on Tues., June 5, beginning at noon Mountain Time to learn more about the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) narrowband mandate.

Land Mobile Radio (LMR) systems operating in the VHF and UHF radio bands must begin operating with 12.5 kHz efficiency technology by January 1, 2013, the national deadline. The State of Montana's migration date is Oct. 1, 2012. Licensees not operating at 12.5 KHz efficiency at that time could be subject to FCC enforcement action, which may include admonishment, monetary fines or loss of license.

Get the details from the FCC directly: Roberto Mussenden of the FCC's Policy and Licensing Division, Public Safety & Homeland Security Bureau, will discuss the enforcement process. He will also address the waiver process for extensions beyond the deadline, including what the FCC looks for when evaluating waiver requests.

Plus, APCO Frequency Coordination (AFC) staff engineer Steve Makky Sr. will discuss the likelihood of interference to and from neighbors caused by a 25 kHz system not having been narrowbanded by the deadline and the potential for resulting FCC involvement. [Click Here To Register!](#)

## NECP Capabilities Reporting Exceeds 75% !

Great progress is being made on increasing Montana's reporting on accomplishment of Goal # 2 of the NECP, and Montana's Communications Capabilities county reporting has now exceeded 75%! Performance evaluation completion has increased to 39%.

Eight more counties now have submitted both of their reports. They are listed in the chart below.

Plus, capabilities reports have now been received from Anaconda-Deer Lodge, Dawson, Golden Valley, Jefferson, Madison, Meagher, Mineral, Missoula, Musselshell, Pondera and Powell Counties. Super job everyone!

**Great progress is being made on NECP reporting. Montana's Communications Capabilities county reporting has now exceeded 75%!**

## NECP CAPABILITIES & PERFORMANCE REPORTS

County	Person(s) Reporting	County	Person(s) Reporting
Beaverhead	Scott Marsh & Jay Hansen	Garfield	Carol Hellyer
Broadwater	Bill Fleiner	Lake	Steve Stanley
Cascade	Vince Kolar	Lincoln	Vic White & Lisa Oedewaldt
Fergus	Cheri Kilby	Powder River	John Blain

## Amateur Radio Operators Urged to Mark the Date!

Amateur radio operators or organizations that work with public safety and/or cross-disciplinary emergency response personnel are encouraged to set aside Sat-Sun, Aug. 25-26 to attend a special Auxiliary Communications Workshop (AUXCOMM) in Billings.

Developed by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Office of Emergency Communications, this workshop is designed for amateur radio/auxiliary communicators or groups who provide emergency communications back-up support for planned or unplanned events at a tribal, State/Territory, regional or local level. The curriculum focuses on educating attendees about auxiliary communications

# ***HEARD ACROSS MONTANA***

interoperability, emergency operations center etiquette, on-the-air etiquette and FCC rules and regulations.

It also will address auxiliary communications training and planning, certification and accreditation, and emergency communications deployment. It is intended to supplement and standardize an operator's basic knowledge of emergency amateur radio communications in a public-safety context.

Class will run from 8:00 am until approximately 6:00 pm each day with facilitated lecture and student exercises. This course builds in time for interactive discussions and exercises. The cadre will work through discussions and exercises to explain processes to reach communications operability and interoperability. In addition, the opportunity to incorporate additional communications participant solutions will be available.

No tuition is being charged for the course; however, certain prerequisites are required. For more information on these and course registration,

please contact [Todd Gansel](#), ARRL Montana Emergency Section Coordinator, 406-670-7956.

## **Upcoming Meetings**

- **Tues.-Wed., June 5-6: ICS-300 Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents**

Deer Lodge • 8:00 am - 5:00 pm both days

Deer Lodge City Hall, 300 Main Street

To register, contact: [Ruth Koehler](#), 406-846-9718

- **Thurs., June 7: Northern Tier Consortium**

Havre • 10:00 am - 12:30 pm

Hill County Justice Center Courtroom

1450 2<sup>nd</sup> St. West

- **Tues., June 12: SIGB Meeting Cancelled**

- **Wed-Thurs., June 13-14: MT APCO Conference**

Great Falls • All day

Holiday Inn, 400 10<sup>th</sup> Ave. S.

- **Tues., June 19: State Agency Radio Users Task Force**

Helena • 2:30 - 4:00 pm

Mitchell Building, 125 N. Roberts, Rm. 160